

Daily Report 184/2020

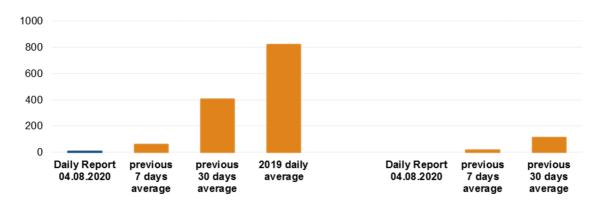
4 August 2020¹

Summary

- The SMM recorded no ceasefire violations in Donetsk region (compared with one in the previous 24 hours) and three ceasefire violations in Luhansk region (compared with two in the previous 24 hours).
- From 00:01 on 27 July until the end of the reporting period, the SMM recorded a total of 246 ceasefire violations.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. Inside the latter two areas, an SMM long-range UAV observed people during evening and night hours.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to as well as maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission visited a border crossing point in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk region.
- The SMM continued following up on the situation of civilians amid the COVID-19 outbreak, including at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
- The Mission's freedom of movement continued to be restricted.*

Ceasefire violations²

Number of recorded ceasefire violations³ Number of recorded explosions⁴



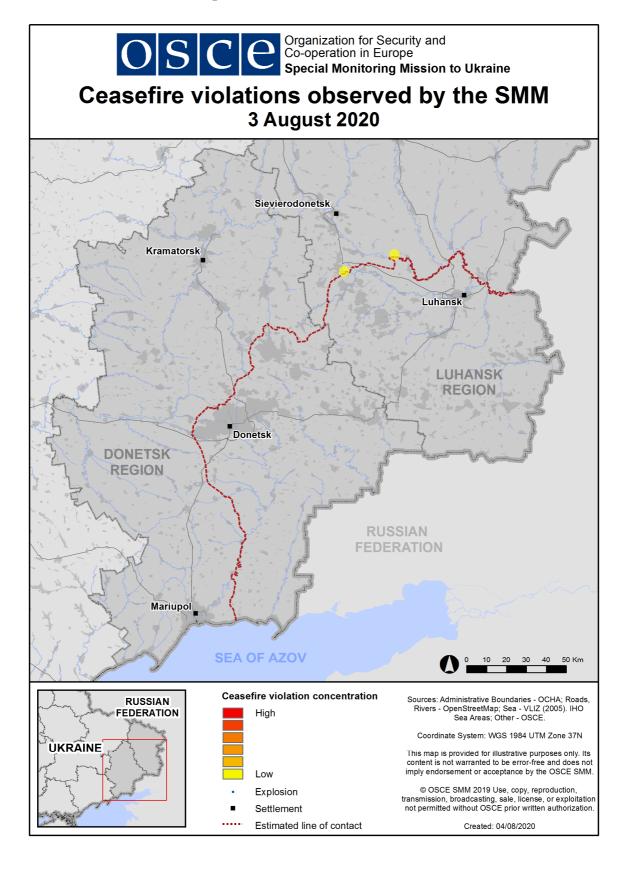
¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 3 August 2020. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM cameras in Petrivske, Zolote and near Shyrokyne were not operational.

³ Including explosions.

⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations



In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations. In <u>the previous 24 hours</u>, it recorded one ceasefire violation.

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded three ceasefire violations – a projectile in flight in an area north of the disengagement area near Zolote (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk and two illumination flares in areas south-west of Kriakivka (government-controlled, 38km north-west of Luhansk). In the previous 24 hours, the SMM recorded two ceasefire violations.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group (TCG) on 22 July regarding additional measures to strengthen the ceasefire, from 00:01 on 27 July until the end of the reporting period, the SMM recorded a total of 246 ceasefire violations, both in Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 44 explosions, two projectiles in flight, two illumination flares and 198 bursts and shots of small-arms fire).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

On 3 August, inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw three members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them) between the new span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge and their checkpoint south of it.

On 31 July, inside **the disengagement area near Zolote**, an SMM mini-unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted an armoured light utility vehicle (Kozak-2) in the south-eastern part of Katerynivka (government-controlled, 64km west of Luhansk), near a former position of the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

On the night between 1 and 2 August, inside the disengagement area, an SMM long-range UAV spotted six people near former positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces (about 550m and about 1.1km west, and about 190m south-west, respectively, of the area's north-eastern corner). Also inside the disengagement area, the same UAV spotted three people near the area's eastern edge about 1.4km north of its south-eastern corner and three people about 350m north of its southern edge, all near former positions of the armed formations.

On the evening of 2 August, inside the disengagement area, an SMM long-range UAV spotted in total four people near the abovementioned former positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, as well as five people near the abovementioned former position of the armed formations near the area's eastern edge.

On the night between 2 and 3 August, the SMM camera in Zolote recorded a projectile in flight at an assessed range of 2-4km east and assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery.

On 3 August, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw six members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with "JCCC" written on them), two of whom it saw entering the disengagement area, walking about 350m north inside the disengagement area and then returning.

⁵ Disengagement is foreseen in the Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware of 21 September 2016.

Outside the disengagement area, about 500m south of its southern edge, the SMM saw workers from non-government-controlled areas on road T-1316 as well as an excavator loading vegetation and debris into a truck. In the same area, the SMM also saw for the first time mine hazard signs placed every 6-8m for about 260m in a field along road T-1316 south of the disengagement area.

On the evening of 1 August, inside the disengagement area near Petrivske (nongovernment-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), an SMM long-range UAV spotted five people near former positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces about 550m east of the area's south-western corner. Also inside the disengagement area, the same UAV spotted two people near former positions of the armed formations near the area's south-eastern corner.

On the night between 2 and 3 August, inside the disengagement area, about 1.5km east of the area's south-western corner, an SMM long-range UAV spotted a new 25m long trench running west to east with a covered position at its end (not visible in imagery from 5 July 2020). Close to the site, the UAV spotted two people and three more approaching from the southern edge of the area.

On 3 August, while positioned at the SMM camera in Petrivske, the SMM saw four white small cement blocks placed on the road leading from Petrivske to Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 42km south-west of Donetsk) about 90m west of the camera site. While positioned at two locations near Petrivske and Bohdanivka, the SMM observed a calm situation.

Withdrawal of weapons

The SMM continued to monitor the withdrawal of weapons in implementation of the Memorandum and the Package of Measures and its Addendum.

Weapons storage sites

At a heavy weapons holding areas in non-government controlled areas of Donetsk region

The SMM noted that six self-propelled howitzers (2S1 Gvozdika, 122mm), 11 towed mortars (PM-38, 120mm), one mortar (2B11 Sani, 120mm) and six multiple launch rocket systems (BM-21 Grad, 122mm) were again missing.

At a heavy weapons permanent storage site in a non-government controlled area of Luhansk region

3 August

The SMM noted that all weapons were present.

Indications of military and military-type presence inside the security zone⁶

On 2 August, in fields about 2km south of Avdiivka (government-controlled, 17km north of Donetsk), an SMM long-range UAV spotted a new trench (about 100m long, running west to east) and, about 200m further east, a 30m extension to an existing trench running

⁶ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

perpendicular to the western side of the road (both not visible in imagery from 26 March 2020).

In fields about 1km south-south-east of Krasnohorivka (government-controlled, 21km west of Donetsk), the same UAV spotted a new trench (about 80m long running west to east; not visible in imagery from 16 February 2020). In fields about 600m north of Marinka (government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), the UAV spotted an extension (60m long) to an existing trench (not visible in imagery from 12 July 2020).

On 3 August, in fields about 3 km north-east of Pyshchevyk (government-controlled, 84km south of Donetsk), the same UAV spotted a new trench (approximately 230m long) linking two previously separate trench segments (not visible in imagery from 26 March 2020).

All of the above-mentioned trenches were assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

The SMM observed armoured combat vehicles in the security zone in government-controlled areas of Donetsk region and in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions (for further details, see the table below).

Presence of mines near Vodiane and Pikuzy

On 1 August, on the north-eastern edge of Vodiane (government-controlled, 94km south of Donetsk), east of the road leading to Pikuzy (formerly Kominternove, non-government-controlled, 92km south of Donetsk), an SMM mini-UAV again spotted 50 anti-tank mines (the same UAV also spotted that 74 out of the 124 previously reported mines are burnt out; for previous observations in the area, see SMM Daily Report 25 October 2019). Approximately 1km north-east of Vodiane north of the road leading to Pikuzy, the same UAV again spotted 13 anti-tank mines (for previous observations in the area, see SMM Daily Report 7 May 2020). All of these mines were assessed as belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

On the same day, in a field on the south-western edge of Pikuzy, an SMM mini-UAV again spotted 42 anti-tank mines (part of a larger minefield). The same UAV, again spotted ten anti-tank mines (part of a larger minefield), near the western edge of Pikuzy, south of road T-0519 (for previous observations in the area, see SMM Daily Report 22 April 2020). All of these mines were assessed as belonging to the armed formations.

SMM facilitation of repairs to as well as maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM continued to facilitate and to monitor adherence to localised ceasefires to enable preparations of construction works south of the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote (see above) as well as near Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk), south of the bridge in Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk).

The Mission also facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to a gas pipeline between government-controlled Zalizne (formerly Artemove, 42km north-east of Donetsk) and Nelipivka (40km north-east of Donetsk); vegetation

clearance, inspection and maintenance of railway tracks near Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk); maintenance of and repairs to power and gas lines in government-controlled Novozvanivka (70km west of Luhansk) and Troitske (69km west of Luhansk); repairs to a water intake near Pankivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk); and demining activities near government-controlled Heivka (27km north-west of Luhansk) (including to support access to agricultural land).

The Mission continued to facilitate the maintenance and operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk) and monitor the security situation near the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk).

Border areas outside government control

On 2 August, at a border crossing point near Marynivka (non-government-controlled, 78km east of Donetsk) for about 35 minutes, the Mission saw six cars (two with Russian Federation license plates and four with "DPR" plates), four covered-cargo trucks (two with Russian Federation license plates and two with "DPR" plates) and one bus (with "DPR" plates) exiting Ukraine. During the same time, it saw four cars (two with Russian Federation license plates and two with "DPR" plates) entering Ukraine.

Measures taken at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints to counter COVID-19 outbreak

In Donetsk region, the SMM noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) near Novotroitske (government-controlled, 36km south-west of Donetsk), as well as its corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka (non-government-controlled, 23km south-west of Donetsk), were operational.

At the EECP near Novotroitske at 10:30, the SMM saw four cars and 215 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) travelling towards government-controlled areas, and one car and 35 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages, including three small children) travelling in the opposite direction. At 11:30 the Mission saw three vehicles and about six pedestrians travelling towards government-controlled areas, and no traffic in the opposite direction. The Mission observed 16 people (nine men and seven women, mixed ages) at the bus station close to the EECP who told the SMM that they had spent multiple nights at the EECP waiting to be put on the list to travel to non-government-controlled areas.

At the checkpoint of the armed formations near Olenivka, between 09:00 and 12:15 and again between 13:15 and 13:45, the Mission saw a total of about 50 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) travelling toward government-controlled areas, five of whom it later saw returning towards non-government-controlled areas. It also saw five cars and two buses entering non-government-controlled areas, and at least five cars travelling in the opposite direction.

In Luhansk region, the SMM noted that the EECP in Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were operational.

While at the EECP at about 09:00 and 14:10, the Mission saw in total about 600 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) queuing to enter government-controlled areas and about 130 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) in total queuing in the opposite direction.

The Mission saw that a golf cart was transporting people between the EECP and the new section of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge.

While at the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the bridge at about 13:00 and 14:00, the SMM saw in total about 40 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages), queuing to travel towards government-controlled areas and in total about 30 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) queuing in the opposite direction. The Mission saw a shuttle bus operating between the checkpoint and a bus stop about 1.8km south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge.

The Mission continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Dnipro, Chernivtsi and Kyiv.

*Restrictions of the SMM's freedom of movement or other impediments to fulfilment of its mandate

The SMM's monitoring and freedom of movement are restricted by security hazards and threats, including risks posed by mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) and other impediments – which vary from day to day. The SMM's mandate provides for safe and secure access throughout Ukraine. All signatories of the Package of Measures have agreed on the need for this safe and secure access, that restriction of the SMM's freedom of movement constitutes a violation, and on the need for rapid response to these violations. They have also agreed that the Joint Centre for Control and Co-ordination (JCCC) should contribute to such response and co-ordinate mine clearance. Nonetheless, the armed formations in parts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions frequently deny the SMM access to areas adjacent to Ukraine's border outside control of the Government (for example, see SMM Daily Report of 14 July 2020). The SMM's operations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions remain restricted following the fatal incident of 23 April 2017 near Pryshyb; these restrictions continued to limit the Mission's observations.

Regular restrictions related to disengagement areas and mines/UXO:

- The sides continued to deny the SMM full access, as well as the ability to travel certain roads previously identified as important for effective monitoring by the Mission and for civilians' movement, through failure to conduct comprehensive clearance of mines, UXO and other obstacles.

Other impediments:

- On the evening of 2 August, an SMM long-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas between government-controlled Zolote (60km west of Luhansk) and non-government-controlled Kalynove-Borshchuvate (61km west of Luhansk).⁷

⁷ The interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of several kilometers of the UAV's position.

Table of weapons

Weapons in violation of withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation		
Government-controlled areas						
02/08/2020	2	Self-propelled anti-aircraft systems (2K22 <i>Tunguska</i>)	At a compound near Prychepylivka (50km north-west of Luhansk)	Long-range UAV		
Non-government-controlled areas						
01/08/2020	5	Towed howitzers (D-30 <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)	In Perevalsk (38km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV		

Beyond withdrawal lines but outside of designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Туре	Location	Source of observation		
Non-government-controlled areas						
01/08/2020	1	Tank (T-64B with anti-aircraft gun 2A13, ZU-23, 23mm)	In Perevalsk (38km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV		

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁸

Date	No.	Туре	Location	Source of observation		
		Government-contr	rolled areas			
	1	Armoured personnel carrier (MT-LB)	At a compound near Prychepylivka (50km north-west of Luhansk)			
	2	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined) Near Novozvanivka (70km west of Luhansk)				
	2	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	Near Ozarianivka (formerly Pershe Travnia, 52km north of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV		
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-2)	Near Vozdyyzhenka (formerly Krasnyi			
02/08/2020	1	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	Pakhar, 66km north-east of Donetsk)			
	1	Armoured combat vehicle (BMP-1)	Near Novomykhailivka (28km southwest of Donetsk)			
	-	New trench	Near Avdiivka (17km north of			
	-	New trench extension	Donetsk)			
	-	New trench	Near Krasnohorivka (21km west of Donetsk)			
	-	N. d. I. d. i	Near Marinka (23km south-west of Donetsk)			
03/08/2020	-	New trench extension	Near Pyshchevyk (84km south of Donetsk)			
	1	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-1)	Near Chermalyk (77km south of	1		
	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP-2)	Donetsk)			
		Non-government-con	ntrolled areas			
01/08/2020	1	Armoured combat vehicle (type undetermined)	Near residential houses in Stepanivka (62km west of Luhansk)	Mini-UAV		

Table of ceasefire violations as of 3 August 2020^9

⁸ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera in Kriakivka (government- controlled, 38km NW of Luhansk)	2-3km SW	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	2-Aug, 21:48
	2-3km SW	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	2-Aug, 21:50
SMM camera in Zolote (government- controlled, 60km W of Luhansk)	2-4km E	Recorded	1	Projectile	In vertical flight (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	3-Aug, 01:09

⁹ The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by the SMM patrols or recorded by the SMM cameras and it may include those also assessed to be live-fire exercises, controlled detonations, etc. Details provided – in terms of distance, direction, weapons-type, etc. – are based on assessments provided by monitors on the ground and technical monitoring officers, and are not always necessarily precise. When information is not known (indicated with an "N/K"), the SMM was unable to ascertain such information due to distance, weather conditions technical limitations and/or other considerations. Ceasefire violations recorded by more than one patrol/camera and assessed to be the same are entered only once.

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions¹⁰



¹⁰ The SMM is deployed to ten locations throughout Ukraine – Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Dnipro, Chernivtsi, Luhansk and Kyiv – as per Permanent Council Decision 1117 of 21 March 2014. This map of eastern Ukraine is meant for illustrative purposes and indicates locations mentioned in the report, as well as those where the SMM has offices (monitoring teams, patrol hubs, and forward patrol bases) in Donetsk and Luhansk regions. (In red: a forward patrol base from which SMM staff has temporarily relocated based on recommendations of security experts from participating States as well as